## The Healthcare Provider's Role in Suicide Prevention



Suicide rates among Americans across all age groups have increased over the last two decades. According to a report from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the rate of suicide has increased by 24% between 1999 and 2014. In Virginia, the Department of Health reports that the <u>number of suicide deaths</u> has steadily risen over the last twenty years with no indication that the issue is specific to any particular age group, gender or race.

Additionally, there is a noticeable link between suicide and recent primary care visits.



Below are resources to help assist Virginia healthcare providers in preventing suicides.

## **Continuing Education**

The following Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available for Virginia's healthcare providers who want to learn more about suicide prevention in a clinical setting.

Recognizing and Responding to Suicide Risk (RRSR)

Suicide Prevention Toolkit for Rural Primary Care Practices

Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM)

Preventing Suicide in Emergency Department Patients

## **Prevention Resources**

The following resources are available to healthcare providers for download, distribution and reuse.

- 1) The Virginia Department of Health has <u>a variety of online resources</u> for healthcare providers that deal with suicide prevention, including links to pamphlets and online courses.
- 2) Zero Suicide is a project of the Suicide Prevention Resource Center, provides steps and informational videos including a toolkit specifically for physicians on suicide prevention plans. The contents were produced by the Clinical Care and Intervention Task Force of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention.

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